



Dear Residents, Families, and Friends,

Here is your Covid-19 Update for Friday, May 29, 2020.

We will try to keep today's message short. As you all know by now, Redstone has experienced our first positive case of COVID-19. The resident lives in independent living at our North Huntingdon campus. As has been our practice, we have maintained full transparency with everyone regarding this diagnosis.

Regarding this positive case, our contact tracing is complete and everyone who has been in contact with this resident has been notified. Testing of all residents and staff in North Huntingdon is completed. In the ongoing conversation about universal baseline testing in senior living communities, one of the "triggers" for universal testing is a positive case. Therefore, we are following this protocol and out of an abundance of caution and care we are testing all of our residents and team members across the Redstone organization. The results of this universal baseline test will determine our course of action for ongoing routine asymptomatic testing.

Resident testing in Murrysville will occur this Saturday and Sunday. Resident testing in Greensburg has been completed for Nursing Home residents and will be completed for Independent Living and Personal Care residents on Monday and Wednesday of next week. Staff testing in Murrysville will occur on Monday and Tuesday and in Greensburg on Wednesday and Thursday. Excela has told us to anticipate a 3-4 day turnaround for test results because of the volume of tests we're sending them (about 1000). We are still working on our plan for disseminating those test results. Any positive results will be reviewed and shared most quickly of course.

As I was reflecting on this case early this morning, I was asking myself, "What could we have done differently?" I honestly don't believe that we could/should have done anything differently. We took every precaution, we set up a safety net that kept us COVID free for over 75 days, and that's awesome! With about 500 residents and nearly as many employees, it's actually pretty remarkable. I continue to be extremely proud of each of you – for your dedication and your diligence in practicing good infection control, social distancing and wearing masks, for willingly self-isolating, and not visiting with your families for these many weeks. Please continue to do all of those things – even as we anticipate Westmoreland County moving to the green phase in the near future.

We continue to get phone calls about families visiting with residents outdoors, residents leaving our campuses frequently to run minor errands, and too much congregating in public spaces. It is really hard to be the "social distancing" police with our residents, especially those in Independent Living. Nevertheless, we respectfully and earnestly ask you to continue to respect and uphold our visitation policies, and that our IL residents minimize their trips off campus as much as possible. Together, we will continue to try our very best to maintain the safest community possible for all of our residents and employees.

I hope you have a good weekend!

Vicki

Vicki Loucks, RN, MSN, MBA
Vice President & Chief Operating Officer
Resident and Family Hotline: 724-972-4579
hotline@redstone.org